

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 4, 1998

LB 1228

make clear to you the answer that you were asking for. What we've said is the State Board is required to develop a mentor teacher program for individuals entering teaching. The State Board shall conduct a comprehensive study of the needs of new teachers and how these needs can be met through a program of orientation and mentor support. The State Board shall...also shall develop and coordinate mentor teacher training to be funded by the Education Innovative...Innovation Fund, and shall develop criteria for selection (sic) excellence, experience, and qualified teachers. The funding of the training is limited to 10 percent of the Education Innovation Fund, and has first priority on those funds. Thank you.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: You have heard the opening. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Bromm would move to amend this component of the committee amendments, Mr. President. Senator, floor amendment. It's on page 895 of the Journal. (See FA553.)

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Bromm, to open.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen, colleagues, let me tell you what this amendment does, and it's a policy decision and a...I think it's important enough to discuss. One of the things that I've heard some of my colleagues say as we started discussing this bill yesterday was why do we need to train mentors to mentor? Why do we need to spend money, up to 10 percent of the lottery funds, to teach experienced, qualified teachers how to teach other teachers? Is that a valid expenditure of up to 800 or 900 thousand dollars of the fund, the lottery fund for education? And as I thought about that, I thought I think we should at least consider spending that money to help pay for the mentoring program. Now the amendment was drawn here on the floor, and I am not extremely proud of the draftsmanship, but I can tell you that the intent of the amendment is that the State Board of Education shall develop the mentoring program, and the mentor teacher program shall be funded, shall be funded by the Education Innovation Fund up to the 10 percent. I did not amend yet a later section of the bill on page 10, which says that up to